

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 37)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 6x + 21 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(21)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 84}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-48}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-16 \cdot 3}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm 4\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm 2\sqrt{3}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $8 - 5i$ and $-4 + 2i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (8 - 5i) \cdot (-4 + 2i) \\ & -32 + 16i + 20i - 10i^2 \\ & -32 + 16i + 20i + 10 \\ & -32 + 10 + 16i + 20i \\ & -22 + 36i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 30x - 72$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 3)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} & 1 & 1 & -30 & -72 \\ -3 & & -3 & 6 & 72 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & -24 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 3)(x^2 - 2x - 24)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 3)(x + 4)(x - 6)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 8) \cdot (x + 3)^2 \cdot (x - 2)^2 \cdot (x - 5)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

